

CLAIMS

What Is Claimed:

1. Relaxin like factor comprising an A chain and a B chain,  
 5 said A chain having the amino acid sequence:  
 Gln-Leu-Tyr-Ser-Ala-Leu-Ala-Asn-Lys-Cys-Cys-His-  
 Val-Gly-Cys-Thr-Lys-Arg-Ser-Leu-Ala-Arg-Phe-Cys  
 or an amino acid sequence truncated by up to about 6  
 10 amino acids from the N-terminus and/or by up to 6  
 amino acids from the C-terminus;  
 said B chain having the amino acid sequence:  
 Asp-Ser-Trp-Met-Glu-Glu-Val-Ile-Lys-Leu-Cys-Gly-  
 Arg-Glu-Leu-Val-Arg-Ala-Gln-Ile-Ala-Ile-Cys-Gly-  
 Met-Ser-Thr-Trp-Ser  
 15 or an amino acid sequence truncated by up to 5 amino  
 acids from the N-terminus and/or by up to 5 amino  
 acids from the C-terminus;  
 said A and B chains linked by disulfide bonds  
 between A11 and B11 and wherein said relaxin like  
 20 factor displaces bound relaxin tracer from the  
 receptor to which it is bound.
2. The relaxin like factor of Claim 1 wherein 0  
 up to about 6 amino acids are deleted from the 5' end  
 and 0 up to about 6 amino acids are deleted from the  
 25 3' end of the A-chain.
3. The relaxin like factor of Claim 1 wherein 0  
 up to about 5 amino acids are deleted from the 5' end  
 and 0 up to about 5 amino acids are deleted from the  
 30 ~~3' end of the B-chain.~~
4. A method of treating a mammal for a  
 condition susceptible to treatment with relaxin,  
 comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a  
 therapeutically effective amount of the relaxin like  
 factor of Claim 1.
5. The method of Claim 4 wherein the disease is  
 35 selected from the group comprising cardiovascular

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disease, neurodegenerative or neurologic disease, sinus bradycardia, depression, hair loss, or diseases related to uncontrolled or abnormal collagen or fibronectin formation.

- 5        6. The method of Claim 5 wherein the disease related to the uncontrolled or abnormal collagen formation is scleroderma.

- ~~7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the~~  
relaxin like factor of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically  
10 acceptable excipient.

8. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 7 additionally comprising relaxin or relaxin analog.

9. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 8 wherein said relaxin like factor and relaxin are  
15 present in synergistic amounts.

10. The relaxin analog of Claim 1 wherein said  
~~relaxin like factor is radiolabelled.~~

11. A method for using the relaxin like factor of Claim 1 in a binding assay.

- 20        12. A method for using the relaxin like factor of composition of Claim 10 for relaxin receptor mapping.

13. A pharmaceutical composition of Claim 7 wherein the effective amount is 0.1 to 500  $\mu\text{g/kg}$  of  
25 body weight per day.

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